

# TORRANCE HERALD

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## CEMETERIES OUTSIDE CITY REGULATION

Searching study of the State Health and Safety Code was being made this week by opponents of the proposed Pacific Hills Cemetery in the southern tip of the city, following an opinion from Torrance City Attorney C. Douglass Smith stating that:

"The action of the Planning Commission in granting Senness a variance for a cemetery is null and void.

Smith's opinion, a copy of which Senness received early this week, resulted in steps being started by Senness' attorneys to dedicate the tract of land in the southerly tip of the old Weston Ranch holdings to cemetery users exclusively.

Senness said yesterday that he planned to have the dedication conform to the requirements of the state law governing cemeteries, as result of Smith's ruling that appeared to put him "out" of the cemetery business as quickly as he got into it two weeks ago under a zoning variance granted by the City Planning Commission.

Smith wrote in his opinion to the Council:

"The matter of granting a variance for cemetery purposes is NOT a municipal affair because the State of California has covered the entire matter of cemeteries and burial of the dead. This leaves the City Council without legal authority to entertain any appeal concerning any act of the City Planning Commission for the reason that the Commission had no authority to grant any variance.

"The establishment of a private cemetery with crematories and columbariums is not within our jurisdiction. Had Senness or the Planning Commission requested legal advice of the City Attorney's office in this matter, as the Mayor

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## Girl in Coma After Tumble From Mount

In a coma since Sunday afternoon, Dorothy O'Brien, 20-year-old former Torrance High School student body officer, was listed as critical yesterday by Harbor General Hospital authorities where she was taken after she fell from a horse while riding in the Palos Verdes hills.

Miss O'Brien graduated from Torrance High School in 1946 and subsequently attended El Camino College. She is living at the present in San Pedro.

Dr. N. C. Woods, attending physician, stated that the girl has no fractured bones and that although her condition is still critical she is expected to recover.

## You Can Do Something About Juvenile Delinquency Friday

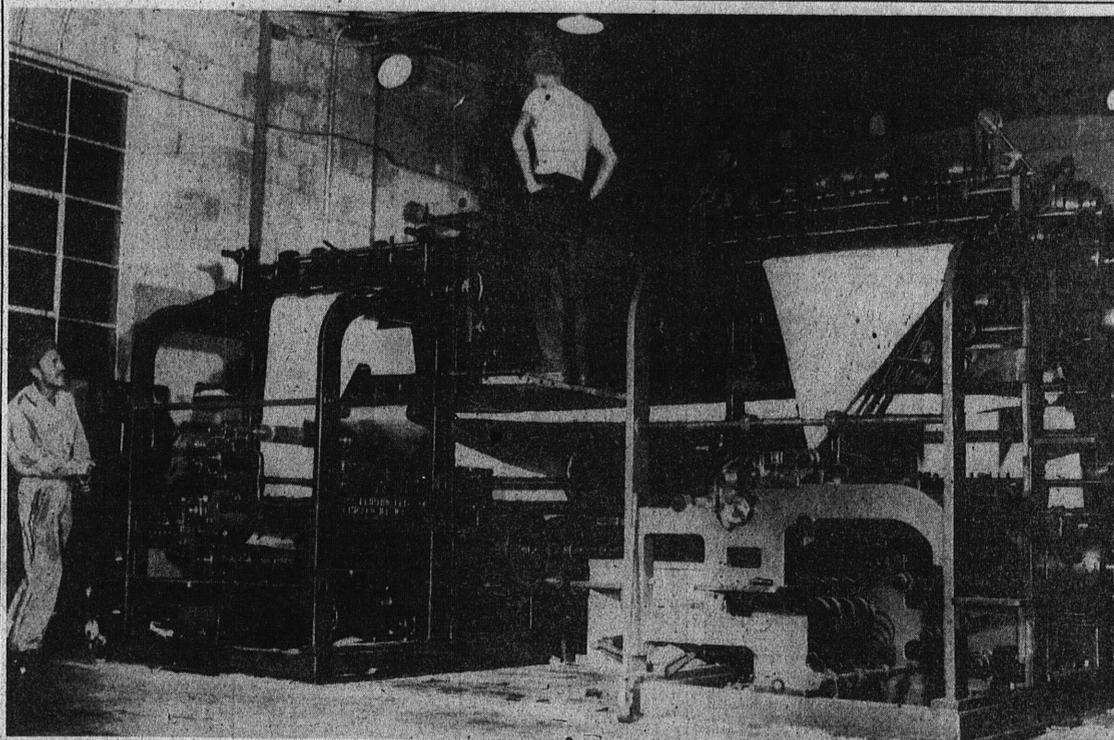
"Juvenile delinquency is a lot like the weather," spoke Police Sgt. Willard H. Haslam, president of the Torrance Police Officers Association, as he directed the public's attention to the 11th Annual Police show to be held in the High School auditorium Friday night.

"Everybody talks about juvenile delinquency and the weather but few people do much about it," he continued. "But we are going to change that."

"Tomorrow night the people in this community will have an opportunity to cooperate with their police department in fighting the problem of lowering the rate of juvenile crimes—and enjoy doing it."

Your Police Association is sponsoring their annual fund raising show and have booked ten acts of the finest vaudeville in Hollywood and Los Angeles. We personally have seen many of these acts and can practically offer a written guarantee that you will have two and a half hours of laughs.

"Price of the show is \$1.50 for adults and 50 cents for children.



READY FOR THE FIRST RUN — This photograph shows the Herald's new twin-unit Goss Rotary Press, threaded up and ready for its first run, which was the production of the 24-page "New Home Edition" distributed as a special section of today's Herald. Capacity is 15,000 copies per hour, and it can deliver two 16-page sections at this rate. Jack Fuller, the Herald's pressman, is at left, his hands on the starting lever. Standing between the two 16-page units is Walter Ake, assistant pressman. Installation of the large press was completed only this week. Final adjustments are still under way. —Staff photo.

## New Deal May Be Near for City Airport

Approximately a dozen firms or individuals have requested and have been supplied with information about the city's operating arrangement for Zamparelli Field, Torrance Municipal airport, according to George Stevens, city engineer. The list follows:

K. Sande Senness, who earlier this year made an offer for management of the airfield; John Kettler, real estate developer; Arrow Airline arrangement for Zamparelli Field, Torrance Municipal airport, according to George Stevens, city engineer. The list follows:

Col. Roger Q. Williams, head of Trans-ocean Airlines, now based at the Oakland Airport; Collins-Dietrich Air Service, Inc.; Joe Shell; Phil B. Lockwood; Charles T. Lester; Andrew Nordin; and Standard Oil Company. Bids are due Dec. 14.

The airport at present is being operated practically at a loss to the city.

## Island Zoning Set for First Hearing Friday

Two public hearings on the proposed zoning of Clifton Heights, an "island" of unincorporated county territory between the Torrance and Redondo Beach city boundaries will be held by the county planning commission. It was announced yesterday.

The first hearing will be held tomorrow at 11:30 a.m. in the commission's office, civic center building, 205 South Broadway, Los Angeles. The second hearing will be held Dec. 17.

## Torrance Over Half Way Mark in Chest Drive

After a "Thanksgiving breathing spell," Torrance Community Chest volunteers picked up speed this week to push the city past the 50 percent mark in the campaign for support of community health and welfare services.

City standing now is \$9,809, raised for 58 percent of the goal of \$18,490.

In Lomita returns were still slow with only \$361 raised for 19 percent of the \$1980 goal.

B. T. Whitney, Torrance chairman announced that there will be a final Chest rally at the Biltmore Hotel on Dec. 9 and that volunteers from all areas are making special efforts to be over the top by that time.

"We can make our quota," Whitney declared, "if we have real cooperation between workers and residents. It is vitally important that our Boy and Girl Scouts, our Welfare Center and the many other agencies which serve us have the funds they need for the coming year. Every dollar we fall short means increased difficulties for the agencies in maintaining their programs."

Whitney said that in case any Torrance or Lomita residents have been missed by volunteers, they may send Chest contributions direct to Chest headquarters, 729 S. Figueroa, where funds will be credited to local battalions.

All Red Feather workers are cordially invited to the Dec. 9th rally which will feature a colorful program and a number of top-flight motion picture stars on hand. Luncheon will be served on a "pay what you usually pay" basis.

## Board Okays Surveying of School Site

Authorization was granted to school officials by the Board of Education at a meeting held last week to employ the South Bay Engineering Company to survey the Seaside School site at a sum not to exceed \$435.

The company surveyed the original residential site and the opinion was expressed that the firm would be the most logical to hire to survey the proposed school site.

Permission was granted to the Torrance High School Student Body last week by the Board of Education to open a bank account at the Torrance National Bank with any two of the following being authorized to sign checks on student funds: John Steinbaugh, principal; C. E. Wallace, vice-principal; and Nettie Babcock, bookkeeper.

## Youth Learns Physics Law the Hard Way

William Anderson Gray, a 15-year-old student had a practical demonstration in physics last Sunday.

He learned the hard way that two bodies cannot occupy the same space at the same time—which he attempted to do.

The youth, riding a motor scooter, tried to crowd into the same spot already occupied by an automobile said to have been driven by Nellie May Lewis, of 1637 Fern avenue.

Doctors at the Torrance Medical Group where he was treated for minor injuries were confident that the young student, who gave his address as 2518 Carson street, would "go around" the next object, especially an automobile, that he met on the highway.

The "demonstration" took place at El Prado and Cravens avenue.

## 233rd Street Refiner Ready to Move Plant

After being fined \$100 and sentenced to a 15-day suspended jail sentence last week by City Judge Otto B. Willett, Clifford A. Keller, owner of a small refinery and trucking business located at 2323 W. 233rd street, was preparing to move his business to a location outside the city limits. It was reported last night.

Keller pleaded guilty, to seven counts of violating a planning commission ordinance—storing oil in an agricultural zone—and was placed on six months probation.

The charge was filed against the Keller, vice president of the Top Trucking Company, by City Attorney C. Douglass Smith after many complaints had been received by the police department of obnoxious odors and

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## Haggard to Urge Adoption of Oil Law Immediately

Four Torrance city councilmen who declined last week to adopt an ordinance regulating the drilling of oil wells and apertures—including hazardous sumps—will be asked again next Tuesday night to give it its second and final reading, it was learned last night by The Herald.

## TELEPHONE RATES DUE FOR BOOST

Telephone bills of Torrance residents will jump from 75 cents to \$1.75 per month depending upon the type of service if the recent application of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company for a rate increase is granted, it was disclosed this week by A. B. Smith, local district manager.

"The public is demanding more and more service," Smith stated. "Present earnings are not sufficient to attract the hundreds of millions of dollars of new capital that must be raised from the sale of stock to purchase the plant and equipment needed to meet the telephone demands of the public. In order to raise this capital, earnings must be adequate to attract the investment dollars in competition with other industries."

Smith explained that the proposed rate changes would jump the service to residences with a two party line from \$2.25 to \$3.25 for the flat rate and with the extended rate increasing from \$2.75 to \$4.

Single party residence service would increase from a flat rate of \$2.75 to \$4 with the extended rate jumping from \$3.25 to \$4.75—an increase of \$1.50 per month, which is the largest increase proposed in the residential service rates.

Four party lines would rise from a present rate of \$2 for the flat rate service to \$2.75 while the extended service would increase from \$2.50 to \$3.25.

Business phone bills would bear the brunt of the largest jump in rates with subscribers having the single party line flat rate service jumping from \$4.75 to \$6.50—a jump of \$1.75 per month. Extended rate business phones would rise

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## Local Junior Chamber Will Be Reactivated

After eight years of inactivity the Torrance Junior Chamber of Commerce came to life Tuesday night at a meeting of local men who are attempting to reactivate the organization.

Meeting at the Fish Shanty the group elected temporary officers and heard Dr. P. Roams, national director of the Junior Chamber of Commerce outline the purpose and scope of the organization.

Elected pro-tem were: Howard J. Pearey, chairman; Howard Hill, secretary treasurer; Leland Evans, publicity chairman and Walter Schaeffer, constitution and by-laws chairman.

The meeting also was attended by the following:

Boris Woolley, Harold Sheldon, Vernon Lovelady, Thomas King, Vernon Coll and Dick Tuttle.

Pledged but not present were Harry Watkins, Ben Smith, Bob Kinney, J. Whitmer and Doc Simmons.

Pearey stated that any person interested in joining the organization should contact Howard Hill at 2093 Torrance boulevard.

Ice Pick Used on Car Tires

Rocco Michael Graziano, a resident of the Plaza Hotel, complained to Torrance Police that the four new tires on his 1947 convertible had been punctured with an ice pick and the top of the car had been split with a sharp instrument sometime during the night Sunday.

## Hit-and-Runner Has Horse Laff On Authorities

Torrance Police had a report of a hit and run accident last week and although the offender was apprehended the officer failed to book the culprit—or even ask his name.

And for good reason! He was a horse.

The accident report stated that last Friday a horse being ridden by D. L. Hurlock, 3415 Newton street, collided with a car being driven by Marion Hinesley, 24219 Ocean avenue, and after smashing the left front door and breaking the glass in the window the horse rose and trotted away from the scene. His rider was uninjured. The accident occurred at Newton street and Park street in Waltham.

Police expressed no surprise that no one was injured in the accident, not even the horse, for the animal was quartered at the Good Luck Riding Academy.

"I'm not going to say I didn't know about the meetings—because I did—but I think we owe the oil men a little respect. I have children of my own who might fall into one of these sumps and I'm not going to recognize any ordinance that this oil group might offer."

Councilman A. Jackson said it was his opinion that many oil operators didn't know about the ordinance and said he "believed the request for a 60-day continuance was a just one."

Mayor Sherkey, who was the last to speak up, explained that a delegation of oil men had come to him Monday preceding the last Council meeting and said they didn't know about the ordinance.

"It seemed a reasonable request, because I know that I had the master copy of the ordinance, and that's the excuse I had."

Drale suggested that "people write letters to the Council about it."

Before the meeting adjourned Haggard instructed the city attorney to see that ordinances the city attorney prepares are sent to all councilmen in the mail before adoption, which would enable them to be familiar with every ordinance that comes up.

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PART THEIRS . . . Jim Lynch Jr. (left) and Harold Holmes, members of the Torrance Area Youth Band are proud of the trophy their band won for taking second place in the Community-Sponsored Bands Division of the recent 8th Annual All Western Band Review held in Long Beach. Tomorrow night the band journeys to San Pedro to participate in the annual Santa Claus Parade. —Herald Photo.